

### III. Gather Data

#### A. The First Tornado Forecast

- Click on the "Golden Anniversary" site.
- Scroll down to "Historical Events" and click on "Description of Historical Events."
- Scroll down to "March 20, 1948."
- Read the information and answer the following questions.

1. What happened at 10 p.m. on March 20, 1948?

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- Scroll down to "March 21, 1948."

2. On March 21, 1948, the Investigative Board decided that tornadoes could not be forecast, given the current state-of-the-art. What did they recommend?

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- Scroll down to "March 22-24, 1948."

3. What did Fawbush and Miller study over the next three days?

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- Scroll down to "March 25, 1948."

4. What happened at 2:50 p.m. on March 25, 1948?

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5. Later that night, what happened for the second time in five days?

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6. The first tornado forecast led to what?

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## B. Tornado Statistics



- Click on the "Fujita Scale" site.
- Look at the two pie charts and read the descriptions.



1. What years of data are these statistics made from?

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2. What percentage of all tornadoes are considered:

a. weak? \_\_\_\_\_

b. strong? \_\_\_\_\_

c. violent? \_\_\_\_\_

2. Did the number of people killed by tornadoes increase or decrease after 1950?

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- Scroll down to "The Fujita Scale"

3. What kinds of damage are typical of these tornadoes?

a. weak (F0 and F1)? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

b. strong (F2 and F3)? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

c. violent (F4 and F5)? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



- Click "Back" until you get back to the OAR Tornado Gather Data site.

### C. Decoding the Dallas County Texas Tornado Statistics Summary



- Click on "All Tornado Statistics".

1. What years of data were used for the first step?

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- Scroll down to the map of the United States

- Click on Texas.

- Scroll down to Dallas County

2. Of the 66 tornadoes, tally with hatch marks how many were:

F0: \_\_\_\_\_

F1: \_\_\_\_\_

F2: \_\_\_\_\_

F3: \_\_\_\_\_

F4: \_\_\_\_\_

F5: \_\_\_\_\_

3. Add your totals as shown below into weak, strong, and violent categories:

weak (F0 + F1): \_\_\_\_\_

strong (F2 + F3): \_\_\_\_\_

violent (F4 + F5): \_\_\_\_\_

4. Now calculate what percentage each category represents of the total number of tornadoes (hint: divide the number in the category by the total, 66, and multiply by 100):

weak: \_\_\_\_\_

strong: \_\_\_\_\_

violent: \_\_\_\_\_



- Click "Back" until you get back to the OAR Tornado Gather Data site.